(SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) The Government have constituted a Group of Ministers with Minister of Finance as Chairman to review whole gamut of policies relating to:—

(i) incentives for increasing agricultural productivity and for effecting the shift in the pattern of agricultural production to a more diversified cropping pattern; to enable more value addition through food processing and enhanced exportability; to reduce dependence on imports of edible oils;

(ii) devising institutional arrangements to bring about greater price stability over a wider range of agricultural products at levels remunerative to farmers, yet fair to the consumers; and

(iii) to suggest measures for building up indigenous capabilities to meet international competition and to evolve a suitable policy for agricultural exports.

(c) There is no fixed time frame for the report of Group of Ministers.

(d) The farmers are likely to be benefited with the policy measures/decisions of the Group of Ministers concerning incentives for increasing agricultural productivity, diversified cropping pattern, value adddition through food processing, enhanced agricultural exports, greater price stability and building up of indigenous capability to meet international competition.

National Warehouse Policy

2910. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of godowns with FCI in each State/Union Territory both covered and uncovered, separately;

(b) the exact quantity and value of foodgrains lying in open with FCI as on date, foodgrain-wise;

(c) whether any monitoring agency is available to cover open godowns to check the rotting of foodgrains with FCI;

(d) whether Government propose to formulate a "National Warehousing Policy", if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any arrangements have been made, till date for storage of foodgrains particularly wheat and rice to be procured in the next season; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) The information is given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The exact quantity and value of foodgrains lying in the CAP storage with FCI as on 31-1-2000 is as under:—

Quantity in Lakh Tonnes
Value in Rs. Crores

Commodity	Qty.	Value
Wheat	39.78	2798.96
Rice (Paddy in terms of Rice)	14.27	1420.58

(c) The stocks of foodgrains with FCI are preserved on scientific lines. Disinfestation is undertaken periodically and technically trained staff is deployed for conducting inspections for proper up-keep of foodgrains.

(d) With a view to reducing storage and transit losses in foodgrains and to meet the reuqirement of storage space, the Government on 4th July, 2001, announced a National Policy on storage, handling and transportation of foodgrains. The policy aims at harnessing the resources of private sector, both domestic and foreign, for augmentation of infrastructure to handle foodgrains including construction of bulk storage facilities and also, for conventional

godowns under 'Build-Own-Operate' scheme.

(e) Yes, Sir. Storage capacity of FCI is met by construction of its own godowns and hiring of storage capacity from Central Warehousing Corporation/State Warehousing Corporations/State Governments and private parties, depending on the level of procurement and off-take of foodgrains. The storage capacity with FCI has increased from 24.88 million tonnes as on 1.2.2000 to 30.85 million tonnes as on 1.2.2001.

(f) The information is given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise No. of godowns with FCI as on 1.2.2001

STATE/U.T.	COVERED			CAP (OPEN)			GRAND
	OWNED	HIRED	TOTAL	OWNED	HIRED	TOTAL	TOTAL
Bihar	20	32	52	3	—	3	55
Orissa	22	31	53	—	—	—	53
West Bengal	26	26	52	—	—	—	52
Sikkim	1	1	2	—	—	—	2
Assam	18	24	42	—	—	—	42
Arunachal Pradesh	4	—	4	—	—	—	4
Meghalaya	2	3	5	—	—	—	5
Manipur	2	2	4	—	—	—	4
Mizoram	4	1	5	—	—	—	5
Nagaland	4	2	6	—	—	—	6
Tripura	2	5	7	—	—	—	7
Delhi	7	1	8	4	—	4	12
Haryana	37	97	134	24	5	29	163
Himachal Pradesh	4	12	16	—	—	—	16

STATE/U.T.	COVERED			CAP (OPEN)			GRAND
	OWNED	HIRED	TOTAL	OWNED	HIRED	TOTAL	TOTAL
Jammu and Kashmir	11	6	17	—	—	—	17
Punjab	111	265	376	89	109	198	574
Chandigarh	4	9	13	4	5	9	22
Rajasthan	35	38	73	14	14	28	101
Uttar Pradesh	56	98	154	31	5	36	190
Andhra Pradesh	35	169	204	11	1	12	216
Kerala	22	2	24	6	—	6	30
Karnataka	16	59	75	12	4	16	91
Tamil Nadu	16	20	36	10	—	10	46
Pondichery	3	—	3	2	1	3	6
Gujarat	15	22	37	13	8	21	58
Maharashtra	17	46	63	10	2	12	75
Goa	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
Madhya Pradesh	41	86	127	16	7	23	150
GRAND TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	536	1057	1593	249	161	410	2003

Statement-II

State wise storage capacity for foodgrains

In Lakh Tonnes

STATE	TOTAL STORAGE CAPACITY (Covered & CAP)
Bihar	6.21
Orrisa	5.39

STATE	TOTAL STORAGE CAPACITY (Covered & CAP)
West Bengal	10.57
Sikkim	0.08
Assam	3.04
Arunachal Pradesh	0.17
Meghalaya	0.17
Manipur	0.20
Mizoram	0.18
Nagaland	0.21
Tripura	0.34
Delhi	3.75
Haryana	20.81
Himachal Pradesh	0.26
Jammu and Kashmir	1.07
Punjab	102.25
Chandigarh	1.58
Rajasthan	16.42
Uttar Pradesh	27.92
Andhra Pradesh	33.28
Kerala	5.73
Karnataka	8.48
Tamil Nadu	10.19
Pondichery	1.08
Gujarat	12.40
Maharashtra	18.93
Goa	0.15
Madhya Pradesh	17.62
GRAND TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	308.48